STRANGE

News from the West,

Or, A Full and True

ACCOUNT

of the present posture of Affairs, in the Western Parts of *South-Britain.*

FOR some Time the People in the *West* of *England* have been appriz'd of an intended Invasion from the Side of *Spain*, to be carried on by the late Duke of *Ormond*, who promises himself great Matters from those Quarters; hereupon the People of *Cornwall*, *Devonshire*, and *Somersetshire*, began to put themselves into a posture of Defence.

But upon the Detachments which were drawn last Week out of the First and Second Regiments of the Foot Guards, and which are Marching down, with also some Horse, by several Routs towards the Western Parts, and His Majesty's Speech from the Throne, wherein he Acquaints his Parliament of an intended Invasion from *Spain*, carried on in Favour of the *Pretender*, the People in the *West*, are making what Preparation they can to be upon their Guard, by providing themselves with Arms necessary, and putting them into good Order, in case there should be an Occasion to use them.

'Tis true, some ill designing People to dispirit the Loyal Party, insinuate that the Nation is Defenceless, as being without any Forces sufficient either by Land or Sea to oppose the Forces coming against them, which are said to be in some of the News Papers to be 5000 Men, and 1000 Horse, to be brought hither in Transports, convey'd by some Men of War; however, this News does not in the least *Discourage* the *West Country Men*, who are also animated the more for those few Forces that are coming towards them from *London*, and that so much the more too, because they are to be join'd by Four Regiments that are now Embarking from *Ireland* in Order to be landed at *Bristol*.

Likewise a Squadron of Men of War which is lately arriv'd with Sir *John Norris* from the *Baltick*, will go out to meet the Enemy, under the Command of the Right Honourable the Earl of *Berkley*, six whereof have already been seen to the Westward of *England*, and to join them, a Twelve more Men of War are put into Commission, whose Officers are pressing *Daily*, to fill their Ships to go out with all Expedition.

The Intelligence of all these great Preparations coming to the Knowledge of the West Country People, they now shew no Apprehensions of Fear of Danger in the least, so that all Things at present seem as calm, serene, and as great Tranquility as they do at *London*; nay so encourag'd are they by Undertakings of Loyalty, that they are so positive as to lay great even odds too, that the King of *Spain* will never Venture any Forces to Land in *England*; but as for that Matter, Time in a little will produce; and if ever the late Duke of *Ormond* should attempt to Land there, 'tis said, 'twill not be with *Spanish* Forces, but *Scots* and *Irish*, which you will hear further in our next.